

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MOGADI 01910 281005Z

15
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W
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R 280926Z DEC 74
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2505
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
RUQMN VYFAMEMBASSY NAIROBI 4881
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T MOGADISCIO 1910

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: MARR MASS PFOR KE SO US TZ
SUBJECT: SOMALI REACTION TO US MILITARY AID TO KENYA

REFERENCE: NAIROBI 10618

1. GSDR WOULD NOT RPT NOT LIKE US MILITARY AID TO KENYA. IT WOULD, IN THEIR EYES, CONFIRM US AS A PRINCIPAL OBSTACLE TO REALIZATION OF THEIR IRRIDENTIST AIMS. IT WOULD INCREASE THEIR APPREHENSION AS TO US INTENTIONS TOWARD THEIR REGIME. IT WOULD THUS

STRENGTHEN ARGUMENTS OF THOSE WITHIN GSDR WHO VIEW US WITH SUSPICION AND ADVOCATE CLOSER TIES WITH USSR. WE DOUBT, HOWEVER, THAT A MODEST MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WOULD LEAD TO MAJOR CHANGES IN SOMALI POSTURE TOWARDS US OR USSR.

2. ITS ADVERSE EFFECTS WOULD BE MITIGATED BY FACT THAT CURRENT DROUGHT HAS PROVIDED NEW EVIDENCE OF NEED FOR SOMALIA TO LOOK TO ARABS AND WEST RATHER

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THAN USSR FOR MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. IN

ADDITION, PROMPT US DROUGHT ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA
IS NEW EVIDENCE OF USG WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT GSDR
AND OF USG INTEREST IN WELFARE OF SOMALI PEOPLE.
FINALLY, KENYA IS NOT RPT NOT PRESENTLY VIEWED AS
A THREAT, AND "LIBERATION" OF KENYAN SOMALIS IS VERY MUCH
ON BACK BURNER.

3. WE AGREE WITH REFTTEL THAT SIAD MAY SHOW LESS RESTRAINT
IN HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD KENYA ONCE HE STEPS DOWN AS OAU
CHAIRMAN. HOWEVER, WE WOULD NOT RPT NOT EXPECT A MILITARY
MOVE BY SOMALIS AGAINST KENYA AT THAT TIME. SOMALIA'S
ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES, COMPOUNDED BY SEVERE DROUGHT, THE
SOMALI FOCUS ON ETHIOPIA, KENYA'S ECONOMIC STRENGTH, AND KENYA'S
INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIPS ARE THE BASIC DETERRENTS TO SOMALI
AGGRESSION. AS LONG AS THEY PERSIST, WE THINK SUCH AGGRESSION
MOST UNLIKELY.
KIRK

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